ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A network router generates node state advertisements identifying network links about which the router node desires to receive link state information. The node state advertisements are flooded to other routers, each of which determines whether it lies along the shortest path between the link and the originating router. Each router that lies along the shortest path maintains an association between the link and the originating router, the association indicating that link state advertisements concerning the link are to be forwarded along the path toward the originating router. Upon a change of the state of the link, each router forwards a corresponding link state advertisement to an adjacent node along the path, whereby the originating router ultimately receives the link-state advertisement.

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